

Superior Court Judges' Association

SENTENCING AND SUPERVISION REFORM WORKGROUP

Proposal 10-08

LONG TERM GOAL:

Provide judges' direct authority to protect the community and reduce recidivism through the use of evidence based programs in sentencing and supervision. Encourage development and uniform application of sentencing alternative programs, as supported by research, in courts throughout the state. Establish infrastructure to oversee evidence based supervision, subject to adequate funding, of offenders sentenced to 0-12 months supervision.

Phase I

Establish an incremental plan to systematically reform sentencing and supervision for adult felony offenders. Use general principles, as adopted by the SCJA Board of Trustees in 2007 as basis for plan development.

Work with the Sentencing Guidelines Commission to make the following recommendations to the legislature for the 2009 Session:

1. Lift the SRA ban on suspended sentences for non-prison bound offenders. This will give courts more flexibility in sentencing low-risk offenders. It can also assist the local jurisdiction to affect jail cost-saving.
2. All courts should have drug court and statutorily authorized diversion programs available to judges as sentencing alternatives.
3. Support an "Evidence Based Practices" approach to supervision. Drug Courts and community based DOSA are examples of EBP.
4. Request the legislature to fund additional community DOSA beds and drug court case managers.

Exhibit D

Utilize evidence based practices as identified by the WSIPP to target treatment to offenders to include:

- 1. Drug and alcohol treatment in the community*
- 2. Drug court*
- 3. Vocational training*
- 4. Cognitive behavior therapy*

GENERAL PRINCIPLES APPROVED BY SCJA BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2007

- 1. Increase Public Trust and Confidence**
- 2. Increase Public Safety**
- 3. Shift incarceration savings to local evidence based treatment and community supervision**
- 4. Increase responsibility supervision of offenders**
- 5. Restore truth in sentencing**
- 6. Increase confidence in sentencing based on diagnostic and standardized information**
- 7. Collect data on recidivism**
- 8. Be responsive to legislature, WSIPP, SGC, WAPA, defense bar, DOC, and other stakeholders**
- 9. Participate with national sentencing and supervision reform efforts**